

ABSTRACT

~~A method of deploying a fixed wireless access communications network such that a specified level of link performance is maintained.~~ TN.

Current deployment methods for fixed wireless access communications networks typically give rise to a trade off between link performance and capacity. It is difficult to maintain specified levels of link performance whilst maximising capacity. When a request to change a fixed wireless access network is received, for example, by adding a subscriber, moving a subscriber or adding a sector to a base station, the link performance at each communications link is determined. For example, by measuring the link performance at each link or by predicting or estimating these link performance levels. If the proposed change to the network does not compromise link performance, that is, the predicted or actual link performance levels are greater than a specified level, proposed change is implemented. Otherwise the new subscriber is placed on hold, pending change to the network such as addition of a new base station or sector. Estimates of the link budgets for each communications link are calculated for "worst case" scenario situations. This may be done using known deployment tools. The method is used in conjunction with fixed frequency planning or without fixed frequency planning. In the absence of fixed frequency planning, deployment of the communications network is eased.

005220 "045000